



Moultonborough Town News

Fall 2008

Winter Home Heating Safety Tips

- Keep anything that burns at least three feet from heating equipment (furnace, woodstove, fireplace, or portable heater). Don't stack wood on top of these.
 - Do not use your oven to heat your home.
 - Portable space heaters should be turned off every time you leave the room and before going to bed.
 - Make sure your fireplace has a sturdy screen to prevent sparks from flying into the room.
 - Allow fireplace and woodstove ashes to cool before disposing in a metal container.
 - Have heating equipment and chimneys inspected and cleaned every year.
 - Keep exhaust vents and chimneys clear of snow.
 - Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area, and on every level of the home.
 - Test smoke alarms monthly.
 - Install and maintain carbon monoxide alarms to avoid the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning.
 - Have a Home Fire Escape Plan and practice it.
- Residents with questions or concerns regarding fire safety, heating systems, wood burning appliances or carbon monoxide can call the Fire Department at 476-5658. For more information on emergency preparedness see <http://www.redcross.org> or contact Chief David Bengtson at 476-5658



Heating Assistance Programs:

NHOEP Weatherization Program 603-271-6539
<http://www.nh.gov/oep/programs/weatherization/index.htm>

Winter Family Preparedness

Every home should have a Disaster Supply Kit. You should keep the kit stocked and easily accessible. A Disaster Supply Kit should be sufficient for 3 to 7 days and contain the following:

- Water – at least 1 gallon per person per day
- Food - Non-perishable packaged or canned food, juices, foods for infants or the elderly, snack foods, non-electric can opener, cooking utensils, fuel, paper plates, plastic utensils
- Blankets / Pillows, etc.
- Clothing - seasonal, rain gear, sturdy shoes
- Medical - first aid kit, medicines, prescription drugs
- Special Items - for infants and the elderly
- Toiletries - hygiene items
- Moisture wipes
- Flashlight - extra batteries
- Radio - battery-operated and NOAA weather radio
- Cash - (Banks and ATMs may not be open or available for extended periods.)
- Important documents such as insurance, medical records, bank account numbers, social security card, etc (in a waterproof container)
- Keys
- Toys, books and games
- Tools - keep a set with you during the storm
- Vehicle fuel tanks filled
- Pet care - identification, immunization records, ample supply of food and water, a carrier or cage, medications, muzzle and leash.



Here are some essential tips for winter driving safety:

1. Keep your vehicle in good working condition, your battery charged, your gas tank full, or never below ½ a tank.
2. Make sure your tires are in good condition and that they are an all season or snow tread design.
3. Call ahead or check the TV, Radio or Web to make sure the event is still going on or the place of business is open. If you don't have to travel in bad weather, cancel your travel and stay at home.
4. Make sure your vehicle is clear of snow and ice. You will see better and flying ice will not hit others.
5. Allow extra time. Conditions may slow your travel.
6. Keep additional distance between vehicles.
7. Reduce your speed, drive defensively and don't drink and drive.



“ARRIVE ALIVE”





Moultonborough Library of the Year Award

In August the NH Library Trustee Association notified us that we had won the "Library of the Year Award" for 2008. We were very excited to receive the award as there are 232 public libraries in the state of New Hampshire. The Association was impressed with our accomplishments but especially emphasized all the support we receive from the community. We had a big celebration on September 25th to thank everyone who contributes to the library in so many different ways.

The library had another record setting summer. In just the month of July we checked out 12,292 items (books, DVDs, videos, magazines, books on CD, and music CDs). A remarkable 195 new patron cards were issued. We also had 1,594 recorded sign-ups to use our 12 internet access computers. On one extremely busy, rainy Monday we had 901 items circulate. Our free passes to the Science Center in Holderness were used on 59 days in two months. During the second week of August we

counted each person who entered the library. (We use this statistic for our required annual report to the New Hampshire State Library). In this one week we counted an amazing 2,379 patrons. Children's Librarian Judi Knowles supervised another very successful Summer Reading Program for children, "G'Day for Reading." More than 160 children read thousands of books and participated in the Boomerang game all summer.

Upcoming fall events at the library include the Moultonborough Historical Society and the NH Humanities Council are co-sponsoring a program called "Meet Sarah Josepha Hale." Sarah was a NH teacher, writer, editor, and champion of women's rights in the mid-1800's. We will have a documentary film series in November. December features a very popular children's program: "Making Gingerbread Houses." Our Friends of the Library monthly book discussion series is ongoing as well as weekly story times. We welcome everyone to stop by the library and see what we have to offer.

www.moultonboroughlibrary.org



Community Caregivers, Inc. Celebrates 10 Years

Community Caregivers is celebrating its 10th birthday this year. It was founded in 1998 as a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization to serve Center Harbor, Meredith and Moultonborough. From offices in Moultonborough, 70+ volunteers and two part-time employees serve their neighbors by helping them to live independently with dignity.

While a large percentage of those using the services of the Caregivers are seniors, the organization is committed to providing support for families and individuals regardless of age. In the past year, 43 of the 145 served were Moultonborough residents. A little over half of the volunteers live in Moultonborough. These and the other volunteers provide transportation, friendly visits and phone calls, home chores, errands, and occasional meals. They can also provide referrals for those not sure where to find the resources they need and respite for long-term caregivers. The Caregivers experienced a 67% increase in service requests in 2007 while volunteer hours increased by 26%. Volunteers drove almost 28,500 miles in 2007 to provide these many services.

The Caregiver volunteers tell us that this is the most rewarding volunteer work they have ever done. The neighbors that are served tell us that the Caregiver volunteers make a significant impact in their daily lives by helping them to remain in their homes and continue to lead independent lives. Although volunteers may request a reimbursement for the mileage they drive, there is no charge for the services provided by the Caregivers.

The demand for services are expected to rise significantly this coming year. Yet the organization receives no government funding and relies solely on charitable donations from the neighbors served, their families, individuals, businesses and civic organizations to carry out its mission.

Please join us at the Moultonborough Library, Tuesday, November 18th at 10:00 a.m. to learn more about the Community Caregivers' story. You will also have an opportunity to meet and hear from our volunteers who will share their enthusiasm for this caring and personal volunteer service. Help us complete the circle of caring. To make a reservation, please call 253-9275.

To register for services: 279-9100

To learn more about volunteering: 279-9275

Holiday Schedule

All Town Facilities are closed on:

- Veteran's Day – Nov. 11, 2008
- Thanksgiving Day – Nov. 27 & 28, 2008
- Christmas Day – Dec. 25, 2008

- New Years Day – Jan. 1, 2009
- Presidents Day – Feb. 16, 2009
- Town Meeting Day – Mar. 14, 2009
- Memorial Day – May 25, 2009



**The Waste Management Facility is also closed
for Veteran's Day – November 9**

Community Services

Human Services Department – A New Name

Our department, previously known as the Welfare Department, has faced some changes lately. We have always provided a wide range of financial and service information to the community at large with just a part of our duties being the actual cutting of checks under General Assistance. In order to better reflect this broader scope of our duties, the SelectBoard has changed the name to the Human Services Department.

Our Director, Ms. Kate Lancor is on a sabbatical for six months due to illness and we were fortunate to have Rae Marie Davis step in during this interim period. The office is still open Tuesday from 9:00 a.m. to Noon. We can also be reached by calling 476-2347 Monday thru Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Our Selectmen as well as our other departments are concerned about the welfare of our residents as winter and cold weather arrives. We have developed a Community Service team that will meet each month, this includes our Visiting Nurses, Police Chief, Fire Chief, Donna Kuethe from our Recreation Dept., also our two School Nurses, and Donna Grow from Meals-On-Wheels.

We will try our best to communicate with each other in order to make this winter a safe and healthy one for all of us.

MPD's – Good Morning Program:

The Police Department provides a check in program for our residents. It is designed to assist those, particularly seniors, who live alone. Participants call into the Police Department daily, Monday – Friday. If someone should not check in by 10 a.m., then we try calling the person ourselves. If the MPD is still unable to reach the client, a patrol officer goes to the residence to check on their well being and ensure their wellness. We maintain an intake information sheet in case of an emergency, and to enable the department to access family or care services should the need arise. Contact Ginny Welch, Assistant at the Police Department at welch@moultonboroughpd.com or 476-2400 for further information.



Visiting Nurse Service

The Moultonborough Visiting Nurse Service would like to welcome Starla Watson who has filled the Office Manager position previously held by Deana (Harty) Cahoon. The Service would also like to extend a welcome to their three new per-diem nurses, Tammy Belliveau, RN, Nancy Gallagher, RN and Cecile Andrews, RN who have recently joined the service. If you have any questions about our services or need services, please call 476-2350.



Recreation News



The Recreation Department continues to provide a variety of activities and programs to meet your changing needs.

We have added several adult programs geared to a more senior population. Tuesday mornings a Senior Social is held at the Recreation Dept. from 9:30-11:30 AM and offers folks a chance to enjoy pastries and coffee, good conversation, meet new friends, play cards or games or read. Gentle Yoga is offered twice a week – Wednesday mornings from 10:00 AM – 11:15 AM and Tuesday Afternoons from 2:45 – 4:00. Also at the Recreation Dept. Senior Sit and Stretch is offered on Thursday mornings from 9-10 AM.

On Saturday November 15th we are offering a trip to the Yankee Candle Factory and the Butterfly Emporium. Call the Recreation Dept. for more information and to register for this trip.

Our annual Boston Pops trip held in conjunction with the Meredith Parks and Recreation Dept. will be held on Sunday December 14th and this year we will be seeing the matinee at 2:30 PM.

Kidzercise – for children ages 3-5 is offered Thursday mornings from 10:30-11:30 AM at the Recreation Dept.

Our Winter Solstice Bonfire for families is scheduled for December 19th from 5-7 PM at the Skating Rink. We have a teen skii trip to Stowe, VT scheduled for February 23rd-24th for skiers in grades 5 and up. Winter Days held in conjunction with the Moultonborough Central School gets underway in early January.

Another successful soccer season is going full swing and our after school drop-in program continues to be very popular. We had another busy summer that included Happy Campers, RECKing Crew, Teen Adventure, Creative Writing, our Adult Co-Ed Softball League, tennis lessons, swimming lessons, tennis tournaments, soccer camp, the annual Road Race and Walk held in conjunction with the Moultonborough Pathway Association. A trip to Cabbage Island, ME for a clambake was well attended by adults.

As always, for more information, you may call the Moultonborough Recreation Department at 476-8868 or visit us on our website at www.moultonboroughrec.com



What's Happening With Property Values:



The 2008 reappraisal by Vision Appraisal Technology is now complete. This year's market study showed an overall reduction in assessed value from last year. Sales from 2007 up to April 1, 2008 were used in the study. In general, waterfront properties were still selling for more than their 2007 assessed value while most non-waterfront neighborhoods showed a small decline from last year.

Notices of assessed value were mailed to all property owners in early August. Vision took calls for meeting appointments from August 8th through the 29th. They received 149 calls for appointments which is approximately 2% of all the Town's property owners. The five days of informal meetings between Vision representatives and concerned property owners to review their records is over and errors discovered in those meetings have been corrected.

It is important for you to know that the informal meetings are not a part of the appeal process. The normal abatement and appeal process is still available to all property owners who believe we have made an error. This involves filing a formal abatement application, after receiving the fall tax bill but no later than March 1, 2009. These are available from our offices or online at <http://www.nh.gov/btla/forms/documents/abatementforweb.pdf>.

If it is found that the application has merit, an abatement of taxes will be issued. If a property owner is not satisfied with our local decision, he or she may appeal to the Board of Tax and Land Appeals or the Superior Court prior to September 1, 2009.

The Assessing Department is here to help you any way we can. Our goal is to serve you well. We are ready to answer questions, address your concerns and accept your recommendations. Just give us a call at 476-2347 or stop by the office with any questions or concerns.



Snow and Ice are Coming!



The Highway Department uses 8 employees and 20+ contractors to maintain roughly 300 centerline miles of roads during snow and ice storms. Removal of snow as quickly as possible is always our first priority, but as you can imagine, it's a constant battle.

We'd like to remind you of our Winter Maintenance Policy. This determines our response to winter weather events. Our roadways are maintained in priority levels:

- Level One: Town Roads: School bus routes / high traffic routes / school & town facilities
- Level Two: Private Roads: School bus routes / high traffic routes
- Level Three: Private Roads

We appreciate your patience as not everyone can be first on the list. Plow routes are set up to maximize effective and efficient use of the equipment by minimizing unnecessary travel of such equipment.

We begin by clearing travel lanes and then, as the storm winds down, go back for a curb to curb operation. During this second step, snow may be unintentionally left on previously cleared driveways or walks. You can help prevent plows from blocking your driveway by clearing a portion of roadway immediately adjacent to driveway. This way the plows have a place to drop snow before they reach your driveway.

The policy also dictates when we begin plowing operations (minimum snow accumulation of 3") and

when and where we apply our various types of materials pretreated salt, untreated salt and sand-salt mix.

This year we will be expanding our use of Magic-O, a salt substitute treatment that reduces the need for conventional sand and salt and applying it before the storm event on certain roads. We would appreciate your comments on this via email to mboroweb@worldpath.net.



Snow Removal Ordinance:

Please help us by complying with our snow removal ordinance (Article 19). This ordinance says that no person shall "...cause to be put or placed, any snow or ice upon the surface of the travelled portion of any road, public or private, for any purposes, except to provide a place necessary for crossing, re-crossing and traveling upon said roadway..."

Simply put this means you can't leave windrows of snow across a road or push it onto an embankment in a way which causes the snow bank to protrude into the roadway. Property owners or commercial operators can be fined "...not less than \$50.00...." for each day of violation. Please help us keep our roads clear and safe for all who travel and maintain the roads of Moultonborough and leave our Patrol Officers free for other enforcement duties.